GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2620
ANSWERED ON:31.08.2007
ACID CONTENTS IN RAIN WATER
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Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study conducted by the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has found high acid contents in rain water in Pune and Nagpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) Yes in Nagpur and No in Pune Sir.

(b) IMD operates a network of 10 stations across the country where rain water samples are collected and are analysed for the last 26 years. The analysis carried out suggests that rain water samples collected in Nagpur have shown acid content in the last 10 years since 1997. However, samples of 2006 have shown a remarkable recovery at Nagpur.

On the otherhand, Rain water samples over Pune have remained by and large in safe range (21 years out of 26 years)

(c) The introduction of ultra low sulphur fuels for vehicles and automobiles, that has been extended all over the country by the Government, will help in arresting the identified acidification trends considerably.